

## RETURNS SLOW IN GREEK PLEBISCITE ON FATE OF KING

Venizelists Predict That Constantine Will Win and Then Abdicate.

### CROWN FOR PRINCE

Paris and London Send Joint Warning on Eve of Balloting.

### BALLOTING NOT SECRET

Soldiers Carrying Photographs of Constantine Go to Polls in Platoons.

By the Associated Press.  
ATHENS, Dec. 5.—The plebiscite to determine the wishes of the Greek people regarding the return of King Constantine to the throne began throughout Greece this morning.

The voting closed at sundown and the full result probably will be published tomorrow.

There were no serious incidents. The Greek press now in Athens voted in the morning. The balloting was not secret. Soldiers carrying photographs of Constantine in platoons.

One of the voting stations was in a cathedral, where groups of boys were distributing ballots on which was written the name of Constantine, for the affirmative, or the voter wrote the equivalent for "No," if he wished to vote negatively. The slip of paper was then handed in and dropped into a box.

Rejoinder for Constantine.  
Preparations are continuing for the return of the former King. Premier Rallis is about to issue a new note to the Allies, in which, it is understood, he will disclaim that Constantine ever worked against them.

The French and British Ministers have asked their Governments for instructions and are busy packing up.

Frightened adherents of former Premier Venizelos, who fear ill treatment at the hands of the royalists, are flocking to the foreign legations.

The newspaper *Patria* appears today with large headlines, "Down with tyranny," "Free live freedom," and "Constantine is coming." The Venizelists are generally to mean that new elections will be held to obtain a more solid majority for Constantine, who, as Parliament is now constituted, has 120 Deputies unfavorable to him.

In the face of the expressed opposition of the Allied Governments, the question was put squarely before the Greek people and the indications prior to the balloting were that the Greeks would vote Constantine to come back.

In the harbor of Piræus, port of Athens, important units of the French and British navies are anchored here for any emergency, while five additional British warships are stationed not far distant.

Abdication Demanded.  
In political circles the Venizelists are forecasting that Constantine would receive a heavy complimentary vote in the plebiscite, but that he would abdicate in favor of his son, Prince George, Duke of Sparta. The Venizelist organ *Patria* demanded Constantine's definite abdication, while other newspaper comment takes a mournful note to the effect that the recent allied note regarding the return of the king, with the return to Greece of Smyrna and Thrace.

While the plebiscite proceeded the white haired and wrinkled Premier, Rallis, suffering from loss of sleep, struggled in the Foreign Office to formulate a note in answer to the allied communication, with interruptions from every source due to his slogan: "This is a democratic Government. I receive all letters at all times."

A joint Franco-British note was received by the Government last night reminding it that under the agreement of 1917, by which Greece's finances were put under French and British control, the Greek authorities can print no new money.

Athens is bedeviled with the American and allied flags and the populace shows no resentment over the allied note telling of the measures to be taken against Greece should the return of Constantine be voted at the polls.

Delivery of Note.  
A note declaring in effect that the Serres treaty between the Allies and Turkey must be modified, should former King Constantine return to the throne, was delivered informally to the Greek Government by the Anglo-French Minister. Long sessions have been held by the Cabinet considering the Anglo-French attitude.

The question of finance is the main disturbing factor in the return of the king. Up to this time the army's expenses have been paid by vouchers to

the International Allied Financial Control Committee.

Princess Christopher, formerly Mrs. W. B. Leeds, is studying French and Greek, and also is arranging household matters. She has not called at the American Embassy so far. The wealth of Princess Christopher is said to reassure the royal family.

There have been clashes in Smyrna between civilians and soldiers regarding the singing of a Venizelos song, and a Cretan regiment has been disbanded. At some points feeling is running so high that the Venizelists are refusing to eat olives, which are the Constantine emblem.

**CONSTANTINE UNMOVED BY ALLIED HOSTILITY**  
**Possibility of Abdication, However, Is Considered.**

By the Associated Press.  
LUCERNE, Dec. 5.—While former King Constantine and his household are confident that to-day's plebiscite will result overwhelmingly in favor of Constantine's return to Greece, they admit that if the Allies are in earnest it is possible Constantine after returning to Athens might find that the country's best interests necessitate his abdication. Former Foreign Minister Strelet, Constantine's chief advisor, said to-day he believed such a contingency "improbable."

The former King and M. Strelet show little if any concern over the attitude of the Allies. Even newspaper reports that France, Great Britain and Italy have agreed to withdraw financial support from Greece failed to cause more than a deprecating smile on M. Strelet's face.

M. Strelet refused to express an opinion, but the general feeling among the Greeks here is: "Do the Allies want the Greek army to remain in Asia Minor or are they able to send the necessary force there to replace the Greeks, who would have to be recalled if financial support is withdrawn?"

The comment of the Greeks here on the allied threat might be summarized as follows: "To-day we wait; to-morrow we, as well as the Allies, will know what effect their threats have had."

Despite their belief that they are correctly interpreting the allied attitude, Constantine's followers admit the situation is fraught with grave consequences for Greece as well as for the Allies. They agree that withdrawal of financial support means certain revision of the Serres Treaty, but they argue that such revision ultimately would result in revision of the Versailles and all the other peace treaties.

M. Strelet and the other Greeks say that, as well as the Near East depends on the Allies' acceptance of the return of Constantine to the throne and recognition that such return is the expressed wish of the Greek people. It is also pointed out that Greece's economic situation, if the Allies remain irreconcilable, would be such as to make the Allies think twice before "sacrificing Greece" to allied interests.

The Greeks say Germany will certainly get the Greek trade if the drachma falls, as would result from withdrawal of allied support, or else that Greece will go bankrupt, which they contend the Allies could not afford to have happen. To observers hearing the Greek side of the case it appears the Greek Government, which is enthusiastically for the recall of Constantine, is willing to risk all on the cards it holds in the international game.

**GREEK ARMY IS USED TO DEFEAT VENIZELISTS**  
**Premier Determined to Nullify the Plebiscite.**

Special Cable to The New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The New York Herald.  
New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Dec. 5.

Messages from Athens to the French Foreign Office indicate that instead of diminishing efforts to make the plebiscite conclusive, Premier Rallis has given orders to the army regarding voting, which will make Venizelos's showing insignificant.

Soldiers are to be allowed to vote only when accompanied by noncommissioned officers approved by the Greek Minister of War, and, naturally, these will all be Royalists. Moreover, voting cards are not to be asked for and elections are permitted to follow wherever they wish, with apparently nothing to prevent multiple ballots.

In some districts, notably in Patras, the Government has issued circulars pointing out that a vote against the return of Constantine is an offense under the penal code.

Except in a small section of the Greek press the warning of the Allies of the consequences that is not given prominence. It is estimated that 50 per cent. of the voters have had no opportunity to consider the possible import of its economic and financial threats.

No anti-French sentiment has manifested itself thus far, but it is understood that several warships have been ordered to hold their positions in readiness to supplement the three now off the Greek coast for the protection of French civilians.

As usual, following diplomatic conversation between the French and British Premiers, the French press obscures the real issues at stake and is concentrating its efforts toward convincing the public that there finally is real accord between the Allies on the Greek problem. Nevertheless, the correspondent of The New York Herald was assured to-day by highly placed officials that despite the half threats and financial warnings of Premier Leger and Lloyd George to the Greek people the situation is still as involved as ever, with Constantine holding the best cards in the game for conservation of the greater Greece which would be his heritage from the Venizelos administration if to-day's plebiscite goes in his favor, as is expected.

Mr. Lloyd George's intimation that Great Britain will not indulge in any further military adventures in the Near East—particularly in the direction of Armenia—is frankly considered here as dependent upon whether the treaty of Sevres is revised in such a way as to measure British risks under it. In fact, it is even reported here that Great Britain is willing to sacrifice Armenia's independence on condition that the treaty provisions regarding British supervision of Constantinople and the Dardanelles are maintained. This would leave the Smyrna question for settlement by Constantine, whose intention is head personally the troops in Asia Minor is not doubted.

On the other hand, France's budget cannot stand an additional military burden to advance the funds necessary. Neither nation can expect to hold its interest in Asia Minor without Constantine's help. In short, as long as Constantine continues the Venizelos policy regarding Turkey, the Allies will material aid for him are inevitable unless France and Great Britain decide to return to the status quo of 1914.

The Leger-Lloyd George note refusing recognition for the last omission of Greek currency is not meeting with a cordial reception here so far as financial circles are concerned. In fact, a Parliamentary interpellation is promised on the issue whether the Premiers are justified in interfering with Greece's internal affairs, which would have a serious repercussion on the French money markets. The drachma is sliding fast and French financiers stand to lose millions.

On the other hand, Constantine's alliance with the Rumanian royal family and also with money interests in Germany is a strong possibility of reawakening the Pan-German idea of Mitteleuropa, which may yet cause the undoing of the big Powers.

There is the League of Nations, to which Constantine always has recourse, as Greece is a charter member, a prominent Greek official reminded the correspondent. "Neither Great Britain nor France will care to assume responsibility for appearing before the League to demand the overthrow of the Greeks and the right to the most complete self-determination. How can this be reconciled with threats of starvation and commercial chaos, even civil war, which the Triple Entente is hanging over our heads as punishment if the Greek nation will not do as we wish with them?"

Constantine has suddenly appeared well supplied with funds, and has paid up many tradesmen who have been clamoring for settlement of their accounts for nearly a year. The Princess Christopher, formerly Mrs. Leeds, is reported to have been largely responsible for the financing of Constantine's campaign. She is now the constant companion of the Queen Mother, and is hailed by the Greek people as "The Doll Princess," who believes that the American millions are likely to induce credit from American financiers if the worse comes to the worst in financial struggle with the nations originally guaranteeing the Greek treasury operations.

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It is the British view that the torpedo was used in the late war when it was learned how to keep the submarine at a distance before it could fire. The percentage of hits before the war was low, rather than better in actual combat. To essential inaccuracies of torpedo fire dependent upon temperature, tides and other infinitely variant conditions was added that a ship of any reasonable maneuvering ability could dodge a missile at such relatively low speed with the help of then developed detecting devices and the further knowledge that it was not impossible to construct a ship that was unsinkable when hit by even two torpedoes.

The legislation of a torpedo carrying airship diving toward its mark with such terrific speed that it can neither be dodged nor hit is still one to be worked out. It is known that the late Admiral Lord Fisher believed this was one of the great features of coming warfare, but the changes in battleships indicated as the result of the Jutland experience tend to protect them from the air.

One of the things learned there was that battleships are inadequately protected from high plunging long range fire. This involves complete change in armor placement, changes in the location of masting, etc., which are impracticable to carry out through the reconstruction of existing ships.

With the United States building twelve battle ships and hastening construction of eight, the field is undoubtedly open for the Admiralty to commence a campaign for new construction here.

Not Influenced by Geneva.  
It cannot be said that recent events at Geneva have influenced any tendency of the British to come out for a new armament programme, for Geneva has been much underplayed in the entire British press. This morning's papers almost exclusively confine their comment to inconclusive speculation on the success of the meeting, almost ignoring the naval troubles and the reduction of their enemy's forces in the loss of the German fleet, have kept them from formulating a normal armament programme. The snail of the League came at an opportune moment to release them from loyalty to that ideal.

All that now remains is to find the price and while business men may groan over taxes spent upon fancy insurance schemes, education, health and expensive regulatory ministries, there is hardly a single stout-hearted John Bull who could not be induced to dig up a few more shillings and pounds or millions as the case may be for the navy, his beloved "senior service."

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"Our first impulse naturally, one of solidarity with our neighbor and friend. Unanimous opinion feels that Chile must endeavor as far as possible to march together with Argentina and develop a common international policy for the welfare of the continent."

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**Mexican Court Orders Return of Bail Forfeited.**

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The only charge remaining as a result of the Jenkins kidnapping affair are against Federico Cordoba, the former bandit leader, who is in command of Government troops in the Tuxpan district. Jenkins expects to leave soon for San Diego, Cal., to bring his family to Mexico.

## BRITAIN IS STIRRED BY NEW PLANS FOR NAVAL EXPANSION

Activity at Armor Plate Works at Sheffield Arousing Criticism.

### TAXPAYERS INCENSED

German Admiral's Report on Jutland May Be Back of Move.

### CAPITAL SHIPS TO FORE

Building Plans of U. S. and Japan May Have Forced Admiralty to Action.

Special Cable to The New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The New York Herald.  
New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 5.

It was reported to-day from Sheffield that the big armor works there were recalling workmen laid off since the armistice, in view of the prospect of important orders from the Admiralty. These works are already engaged on extensive Japanese and Dutch orders, but several shops which last week a collection of the navy were turned back for construction of armor plate.

During the last few days there has been manifest growing public indignation at the Admiralty's determination to recommence construction of its battleship programme. It is doing this only in face of the most severe criticism and the fact that no means certain yet that the Government, in view of the howls from all parts of the business world against the present high taxation, will entertain any thought of such huge additional expenditures.

But Admiral Mark Kerr and other protagonists of torpedoes, submarines and other fighting marine devices than big ships are reported to have been decisively beaten in the Admiralty council and if any new programme is recommended it will contain substantial additions to the fleet of capital ships. This opinion may be traced to the views of the Admiralty on the Kaiser's recent publication. His report to the Kaiser on the battle of Jutland, recently published.

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**WORK KILLS REVOLT PLANS IN GERMANY**  
**All Classes Except Communists Among Labor Becoming Reconciled.**

**EFFICIENCY ON INCREASE**  
**Moscow's Order to Attempt Revolution Expected Before Next Summer.**

By RAYMOND SWING.  
Special Cable to The New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The New York Herald.  
New York Herald Bureau, Berlin, Dec. 5.

The efficiency of the German railways is 25 per cent. higher now than it was a year ago, while that of supply materials, including locomotives, has increased 14 per cent., Gen. Groener, Minister of Transportation, told delegates to an industrial and commercial convention just held here. The raising of the efficiency standards 25 per cent. more in the coming year is his goal, he declared, and if it were reached German railways would be brought back to their peace time footing.

Improvement is noticeable, both in the freight and passenger service, especially the latter. Train schedules are still about 15 per cent. slower than in peace times, but in contrast with a year ago are now punctually held to. There has been a marked increase in the number of trains to the frontiers, and sleeping car accommodations, while still below the demand, are more easily obtained than they were a year ago.

Similar reports of increased efficiency come from almost all industries throughout Germany. In Bavaria and in Westphalia the factories are producing nearly as much, and certain branches quite as much, in a working hour as in peace times, the estimated average now being about 20 per cent. below normal.

The increased output of the Ruhr mines, it is generally admitted, tided Germany over the crisis created by the Spa agreement, and the number of persons drawing unemployment insurance has been reduced about 15 per cent. since September 1. The total number of persons then drawing insurance against unemployment was placed at 415,000, while on November 15 it was given as 249,000.

This improved efficiency is ascribed by business men to the quieter political conditions obtaining. The hopes of labor for an immediate realization of market betterments through a revolution are no longer entertained, and a majority of the workers are more on the defensive against reactionary movements than they are aggressive for even such a cardinal doctrine as socialization. The Communists, however, must be excepted from this view, and it is reported that they will be commencing by Moscow to attempt a revolution before next summer.

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## WIRE CENSORSHIP HALTS AGREEMENT

Telegraph Companies of U. S. Oppose Interference With Private Messages.

### OBJECT TO WAR POWERS

American Commissioners Approve Proposed Convention With Reservations.

### WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—One reason why commercial telegraph companies of the United States are opposing a proposed convention drawn up by the International Communications Conference now in session here is that the convention gives the various governments the power to stop a private telegram. The American companies declare that this, with the powers granted by other articles, is a virtual extension of the war time powers exercised by the United States and is a step toward Government control. The article covering private telegrams reads as follows:

"The contracting parties reserve to themselves the right of stopping the transmission of any private telegram which may appear dangerous to the security of the State or which may be contrary to the laws of the country, to public order or decency."

Two other articles of the convention to which the American companies are understood to object particularly on the ground that they give the contracting governments the right of censorship in peace times, are:

"Each Government undertakes to devote to the international telegraph service special wires sufficiently numerous to insure the rapid transmission of telegrams. These wires shall be established and worked in the most efficient manner indicated by experience of the service."

"Each Government reserves to itself the right of suspending the international telegraph service for an indefinite period upon condition that it immediately advises each of the other contracting governments."

The American commissioners to the conference have approved the proposed convention with reservations, the exact nature of which has not been disclosed. The convention is included in a general one governing the international use of cable, radio and telegraph, and the whole must be approved by a general communications conference to be held later and then by the various Governments before it can become effective. In the case of the United States ratification by Congress will be necessary.